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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/808,289

03/25/2004

Akinori Iwase

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EXAMINER

HUNTSINGER, PETER K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/808,289	Applicant(s) IWASE ET AL.	
	Examiner Peter K. Huntsinger	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 May 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 5/21/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues on page 13 of the response in essence that:

Yoneda '157 does not disclose both a trial printing button and a print button for printing all pages.

- a. Yoneda '157 disclose a trial printing button (partial print, see Fig. 12, col. 17-18, lines 64-68, 1-7) and a printing button for printing all pages (All print, see Fig. 12, col. 17, lines 63-66).

Yoneda '157 does not disclose deleting the image data for the pages after the printing.

- b. It is inherent that the printing system of Yoneda '157 deletes image data after printing. The image data storage must be cleared of unnecessary data to provide storage space for future print data or the printing system would be unable to print any more documents.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 20, 22-28, 30-32, 34-40, and 42-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoneda '157.

Referring to claim 20, Yoneda '157 discloses an image forming system comprising: a control panel (control display panel 117, col. 14, lines 63-66) including a first touch screen menu including a trial priming button configured to, when user selected, initiate a trial preceding print of a page of image data without an additional user selection (partial print, see Fig. 12, col. 17-18, lines 64-68, 1-7) and a printing button configured to, when selected by a user, initiate printing of all pages of the image data in response to the selection of the printing button (All print, see Fig. 12, col. 17, lines 63-66); and a printer that performs the trial preceding print by printing the page of image data in response to the selection of the trial printing and performs the printing of all pages of the image data button (col. 17-18, lines 64-68, 1-7, can be selected to print all or partial); and a controller that sets a desired specification according to operation of the control panel after the printer performs the trial preceding print (Fig. 11 shows printing options), and deletes the image data after the printing of all pages (inherent that the printing system of Yoneda '157 must clear unnecessary data to provide storage space for future print data); wherein the printer prints all pages of the image data or the page of image data according to the desired specification set by the controller (the document can be printed and then printed again).

Referring to claim 22, Yoneda '157 discloses a memory for storing the page of image data (page memory, see Fig. 6).

Referring to claim 23, Yoneda '157 discloses a scanner for scanning at least one original page to obtain a digital image thereof as the page of image data (scanner interface 40 of Fig. 3).

Referring to claim 24, Yoneda '157 discloses wherein the control panel further includes a second touch screen menu displayed after the printer performs the trial preceding print, the second touch screen menu including a print button configured to, when user selected, initiated printing the page of image data according to the desired specification set by the controller (see Fig. 11, the document can be printed and then printed again).

Referring to claim 25, see the rejection regarding claim 20 above.

Referring to claim 26, Yoneda '157 discloses a receiver that receives the image data using a communication line (col. 11, lines 4-15).

Referring to claim 27, Yoneda '157 discloses a scanner for scanning at least one original page to obtain a digital image thereof as the page of image data (scanner interface 40 of Fig. 3), and a memory for storing image data (page memory, see Fig. 6).

Referring to claim 28, see the rejection regarding claim 24 above.

Referring to claim 30, Yoneda '157 discloses an image forming apparatus comprising: a control panel (control display panel 117, col. 14, lines 63-66) including a touch screen trial printing button configured to, when user selected, initiate a trial preceding print of image data without an additional user selection (partial print, see Fig. 12, col. 17-18, lines 64-68, 1-7); and a printing button configured to, when selected by a user, initiate printing of all pages of the image data in response to the selection of the

printing button (All print, see Fig. 12, col. 17, lines 63-66); a printer that performs the trial preceding print by printing the image data in response to the selection of the trial printing button and performs the printing of all pages of the image data (col. 17-18, lines 64-68, 1-7, can be selected to print all or partial); and a controller that controls printing of the image data by the printer, wherein the control panel further includes a plurality of print value buttons displayed after the printer performs the trial preceding print, the plurality of print value buttons configured to be user selectable to permit the user to change a specification for printing from a specification used for the trial preceding print (Fig. 11 shows printing options), and deletes the image data after the printing of all pages (inherent that the printing system of Yoneda '157 must clear unnecessary data to provide storage space for future print data), and wherein the printer is further configured to, if the user changes the specification from the specification used for the trial preceding print, print the image data according to the changed specification controller (the document can be printed and then printed again).

Referring to claim 31, Yoneda '157 discloses wherein the control panel further includes a touch screen print button configured to, when user selected and if the user does not change the specification for printing, initiate printing of the image data according to the specification used for the trial preceding print (see Fig. 11, the document can be printed and then printed again).

Referring to claim 32, see the rejection regarding claim 20 above.

Referring to claim 34, see the rejection regarding claim 22 above.

Referring to claim 35, see the rejection regarding claim 23 above.

Referring to claim 36, see the rejection regarding claim 24 above.

Referring to claim 37, see the rejection regarding claim 20 above.

Referring to claim 38, see the rejection regarding claim 26 above.

Referring to claim 39, see the rejection regarding claim 27 above.

Referring to claim 40, see the rejection regarding claim 24 above.

Referring to claim 42, see the rejection regarding claim 30 above.

Referring to claim 43, see the rejection regarding claim 31 above.

Referring to claim 44, see the rejection regarding claim 20 above.

Referring to claim 45, see the rejection regarding claim 26 above.

Referring to claim 46, see the rejection regarding claim 27 above.

Referring to claim 47, see the rejection regarding claim 24 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 21, 29, 33, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoneda '157 as applied to claims 20, 25, and 32 above, and further in view of well known prior art.

Referring to claim 21, Yoneda '157 discloses an image forming system comprising a printer, but does not disclose expressly a plurality of data processors that

transfer images to the printer. Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious in the art to connect a plurality of computers to a printer (See MPEP 2144.03). The motivation for doing so would have been to allow printing from computers connected to the printer. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Yoneda '157 as in claim 21.

Referring to claim 29, see the rejection regarding claim 21 above.

Referring to claim 33, see the rejection regarding claim 21 above.

Referring to claim 41, Yoneda '157 discloses a process for performing a trial preceding print in an image forming apparatus, comprising: receiving an instruction in response to a selection of a trial preceding button in a first touch screen menu on a control panel (control display panel 117, col. 14, lines 63-66) of the image forming apparatus to initiate a trial preceding print of image data without an additional user selection (partial print, see Fig. 12, col. 17-18, lines 64-68, 1-7); performing the trial preceding print of the image data with a printer in response to the selection of the trial printing button (col. 17-18, lines 64-68, 1-7, without all output contents selected); setting a desired specification according to operation of the control panel after the printer performs the trial preceding print (Fig. 11 shows printing options); and printing the image data with the printer according to the desired specification set by the operation of the control panel (the document can be printed and then printed again). Yoneda '157 does not disclose expressly a plurality of data processors that transfer images to the printer. Official Notice is taken that it is well known and obvious in the art to receive image data at an image forming apparatus from at least one of a plurality of data

processors (See MPEP 2144.03). The motivation for doing so would have been to allow printing from computers connected to the printer. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine well known prior art with Yoneda '157 as in claim 21.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

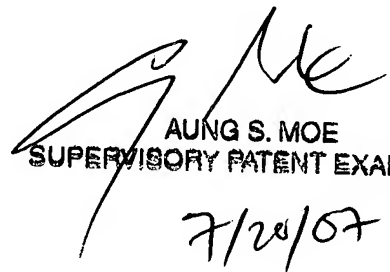
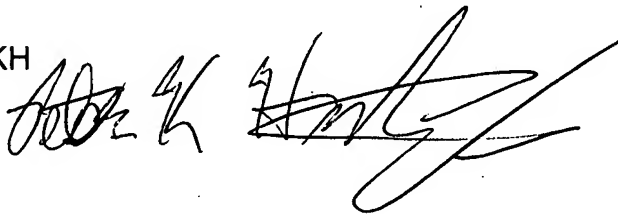
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter K. Huntsinger whose telephone number is (571)272-7435. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Moe Aung can be reached on (571)272-7314. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PKH



AUNG S. MOE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
7/20/07